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Sittingbourne and Milton and Milton Rural United Districts

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE COMBINED DISTRICTS OF

SITTINGBOURNE, MILTON REGIS URBAN, AND MILTON RURAL,

For the Year 1934

BY

A. J. WERNET, M.B. (Lond.), D.P.H.
Surgeon-Captain, R.N., (Ret.),
Medical Officer of Health.

SITTINGBOURNE:
W. J. PARRETT, LTD., "EAST KENT GAZETTE" OFFICE.
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The Sitttingbourne and Milton United Districts Joint Committee, 1933.

Chairman—

E. STEVENS, J.P.

Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council.

A. L. BAKER.
T. BUGGS.
H. FOSTER.
E. F. HANDCOCK, J.P.
W. E. JARRETT,
H. D. ORROM.
J. L. PRIOR.

Milton Rural District Council.

J. C. HARLOW.
A. HINGE.
E. STEVENS, J.P.
Rev. E. W. T. TAYLOR-JONES.
W. J. THOMAS.
W. F. WOOD, J.P.

Clerk—E. CECIL HARRIS, Solicitor.

Medical Officer of Health—

A. J. WERNET, M.B. (Lond.), D.P.H.,
Surgeon Captain, R.N. (Ret.).

ANNUAL REPORT, 1934.

THE SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON AND MILTON RURAL UNITED DISTRICTS.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH JOINT COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit my thirteenth Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Combined Milton and Sittingbourne and Rural District Councils for the year 1934.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.—During the year 1934 in the Combined District the number of Births registered was 453, which was equivalent to a birth rate of 16.3 per 1,000 of the population. In the previous year it was 448 births.

Deaths.—The net number of Deaths registered in the Combined District was 374, equivalent to a death rate of 13.1 per 1,000.

The chief causes of death were:—(1) Heart Disease, (2) Old Age, and (3) Cancer.

Infant Mortality.—The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 23. The infant mortality rate is equivalent to 50.8 per 1,000 births, as compared with 59 per 1,000 in England and Wales.

VACCINATIONS.

I have received the following information from the Vaccination Officer regarding Vaccinations in the District:—

Births during 1934	443
Vaccinations	158
Postponed (Health of Child)	9
Objections	283
Insusceptible	*Nil*
Removed from district	2
Not found	7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 119 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified in the Combined District, as compared with 141 in the previous year, 22 belonging to the Milton Rural District and 97 to the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District.

These included:—

Diphtheria. — Twenty-two cases. All treated in Hospital. No deaths.

Scarlet Fever.—Forty cases. All except one treated in Hospital. No deaths.

Enteric Fever.—None.

Tuberculosis.—During the year 22 cases were notified, 19 being pulmonary, and 3 non-pulmonary.

Other Notifiable Diseases.—These comprised Pneumonia, 10; Erysipelas, 22; Encephalitis Lethargica, 1; and Puerperal Fever, 2.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. WERNET, M.B. (Lond.), D.P.H.,

Surgeon Captain, R.N. (Ret.).

Parish.	Area in Statute Acres.	1921. Persons.	1931. Persons.	M.	F.	Persons per Acre.	Private Families.	Population in Private Families.	Structurally Separate Dwellings Occupied.	Rooms Occupied.	Persons per Room.
Bapchild ...	835	329	351	176	175	0.42	96	351	91	490	0.72
Bobbing ...	1,339	682	737	351	386	0.55	160	631	160	810	0.78
Borden ...	1,950	896	989	471	518	0.51	282	988	279	1,372	0.72
Bredgar ...	1,762	529	507	256	251	0.29	141	502	135	682	0.74
Hartlip ...	1,423	369	391	183	208	0.27	100	391	98	507	0.77
Iwade ...	3,192	493	262	164	98	0.08	50	219	50	270	0.81
Kingsdown ...	705	49	55	27	28	0.08	16	52	16	86	0.60
Lower Halstow ...	1,125	584	569	304	265	0.51	154	558	151	786	0.71
Milsted ...	1,226	220	188	87	101	0.15	50	180	49	269	0.67
Newington ...	2,115	1,127	1,212	575	637	0.57	348	1,207	343	1,715	0.70
Rodmersham ...	1,234	379	316	145	171	0.26	89	309	88	460	0.67
Tonge ...	1,632	315	278	150	128	0.17	73	278	69	380	0.73
Tunstall ...	998	154	147	60	87	0.15	42	147	42	254	0.58
Upchurch ...	3,088	1,312	1,082	548	534	0.35	290	1,077	284	1,316	0.82
Milton Rural District	22,624	7,438	7,084	3,497	3,587	0.31	1,891	6,890	1,855	9,397	0.73
Sittingbourne and Milton	5,121	18,994	20,177	10,086	10,091	3.9	5,267	19,561	5,027	25,980	0.75
Central Ward ...	203	4,238	3,548	1,808	1,740	17.5	882	3,422	841	4,100	0.83
Chalkwell Ward...	182	3,307	3,006	1,506	1,500	16.5	784	2,957	744	4,055	0.73
East Ward ...	1,165	3,722	3,332	1,700	1,632	2.9	897	3,307	849	4,512	0.73
North Ward ...	1,950	2,621	3,670	1,931	1,739	1.9	850	3,358	812	3,851	0.87
South Ward ...	1,216	1,904	3,095	1,439	1,656	2.5	864	3,032	827	4,452	0.68
West Ward ...	405	3,202	3,526	1,702	1,824	8.7	990	3,485	954	5,010	0.
Total	5,121	18,994	20,177	10,086	10,091	3.9	5,267	19,561	5,027	25,980	0.75
Total of Combined District ...	27,745	26,432	27,261	13,583	13,678		7,158	26,451	6,882	35,377	

THE GROWTH OF THE SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON DISTRICTS.

	Acreage.	Population in 1921 (Census).	Population in 1931 (Census)	Population in 1934 (estimated).	Rateable Value 1934.
Sittingbourne and Milton	5,121	18,994	20,175 *	20,480	£97,301
Milton Rural	22,624	7,438	7,084 *	7,198	£28,515
Total	27,745	26,432	27,259	27,678	£125,816

* Sittingbourne and Milton population figures for 1931 include parts of parishes of Bapchild, Borden and Tunstall, and parish of Murston.

* Milton Rural population figures for 1931 does not include parish of Rainham.

A COMPARISON OF THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS DURING 1934.

District.	Estimated Population		Births.				Deaths.			
	For Birth Rate.	For Death Rate.	Total.	Illegitimate and Rate per cent.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	Infant Deaths under 1 year of age. Total.	Illegimate	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
Sittingbourne and Milton ...	20,480	20,480	329	8 or 2.4	16.06	265	12.9	18	2	54
Milton Rural ...	7,198	7,198	124	7 or 5.6	17.2	109	15.1	5	0	40.3
England and Wales	—	—	—	—	14.8	—	11.8	—	—	59

A COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS, Etc., OF 1934 WITH 1933.

District.	Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Mortality.	Typhoid.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Tuberculosis all forms.
Sittingbourne & Milton	1934	16.06	12.9	54	—	20	30	18
	1933	17.1	12.5	62.0	1	8	47	25
Milton Rural	1934	17.2	15.1	40.3	—	2	10	4
	1933	13.6	12.2	64.0	—	10	20	7

TABLE IX.—BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSES OF MORTALITY in the year 1934. } { England and Wales, 121 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 135 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1934, but those for London and the Towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1933.)

—	Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Live Births.		Percentage of Total Deaths.			
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid & Para-typhoid Fevers	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under 1 year	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales ...	14.8	0.62	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.14	0.54	5.5	59	90.4	6.5	2.1	1.0
121 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London ...	14.7	0.66	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.06	0.11	0.12	0.47	7.4	63	90.5	6.1	2.9	0.5
135 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.0	0 67	11.3	0.00	—	0.07	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.14	0.42	3.6	53	91.2	6.1	1.6	1.1
London...	13.2	0.50	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.02	0.07	0.11	0.12	0.56	12.6	67	87.7	6.3	6.0	0.0

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows :

	Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total.
per 1,000 Live Births ...	2.03	2.57	4.60
,, ,, Total Births ...	1.95	2.46	4.41

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT COMPARED WITH KENT AS A WHOLE.

YEAR 1933.

	Nett Deaths.	Death Rate.	Total Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths under 1 year.	Infant Mortality.
Total Urban Districts in Kent ...	10,445	11.7	12,390	13.9	596	49
Milton and Sittingbourne ...	256	12.6	350	17.2	22	63
Total Rural Districts in Kent ...	4,155	11.7	5,124	14.5	248	49
Milton Rural District	88	12.3	98	13.6	6	62

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1934.

SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON (COMBINED) DISTRICTS.

Causes of Death.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 years and over.
Measles	7	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough... ...	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	...	...	...	..	...	...	1	...
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	23	...		...	...	2	14	5	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ...	3	...	...	...	..	...	1	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	44	...	...	...	...	1	2	18	23
Diabetes	1	...	...	...	...	...		...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc	26	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	18
Heart Disease	79	..	...	...	.	..	1	15	63
Other Circulatory Diseases	16	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	15
Bronchitis	19	3	...	...	...	1	...	4	11
Pneumonia, all forms ...	23	1	2	2	3	1	3	7	4
Peptic Ulcer	4	...	...	...	...	...	..	4	...
Appendicitis	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2
Diseases of the Liver ..	1	...	...	...	...	..		1	...
Other Digestive Diseases	12	...	...	...	...	..	1	3	8
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	21	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	16
Puerperal Sepsis	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Other Puerperal Causes ...	1	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...
Congenital Debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. ...	12	12	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
Suicide	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	
Other Violence	13	1	...	...	...	3	5	3	1
Other Defined Diseases, including Old Age ...	47	1	1	2	1	2	3	10	27
Totals, 1934	374	23	7	7	5	10	38	90	194
Totals, 1933	344	28	—	2	5	12	42	78	177

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE COMBINED DISTRICTS.

Births.—During the year there were 453 Births, as compared with 448 last year, which is equivalent to a birth rate of 16.3 per 1,000. The birth rate for England and Wales being 14.8.

Deaths.—The net number of Deaths registered was 374, as compared with 344 last year, and equivalent to a death rate of 13.1 per 1,000. That in England and Wales being 11.8 per 1,000.

Infant Mortality.—The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 23. The infant mortality rate is equivalent to 50.8 per 1,000 births, as compared with 59 in England and Wales.

INFANT MORTALITY.

ALL AGES UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.
Under Four Weeks	9	2
Four Weeks—Three Months	2	3
Three Months—Six Months	4	2
Six Months—Nine Months	—	—
Nine Months—Twelve Months	1	—
	16	7

ALL CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.
Premature Birth	4	1
Congenital Defects	6	1
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	3	1
Whooping Cough	—	2
Measles	2	1
Accident	1	—
Other Causes	—	1
	16	7

These tables show that 11 deaths out of 23 occur in the first four weeks of life and 16 in the first three months. The chief causes being premature birth and congenital defects.

The number of deaths in the preceding years were:—

1933	28
1932	25
1931	18
1930	20
1929	38

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Return giving particulars of the work done during the year 1934:—

1. Population of the area served by the Council, 27,678.

2. Number of births notified in that area during the year under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, as adjusted by any transferred notifications:—(*a*) Live Births, 435; (*b*) Still Births, 10; (*c*) Total, 445. (*d*) By Midwives, 281; (*e*) By Doctors and Parents, 164.

3. *Health Visiting.*

   (1) Number of officers employed for health visiting at end of the year. (*a*) By the Council, 1.
   Number of visits paid during the year by Health Visitor, 1,333.

   (*a*) To expectant mothers. First visits, 29.

   (*b*) To children under 1 year of age. First visits, 387. Total visits, 887.

   (*c*) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. Total visits, 417.

4. *Infant Welfare Centres.*

   (*a*) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council, 4.

   (*b*) Total number of attendances at all Centres during year, 5,189.

      (1) By children under 1 year of age, 3,209.

      (2) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 1,980.

   (*c*) Total number of children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were—

      (1) Under 1 year of age, 243.

      (2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 41.

   (*d*) Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of year were—

      (1) Under 1 year of age, 240.

      (2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years. 320.

   (*e*) Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (*c*) (1), 55.8.

5. *Ante-Natal Clinics.*

(*a*) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council, 1.

(*b*) Total number of attendances by expectant mothers at all Clinics during the year, 54.

(*c*) Total number of expectant mothers who attended at the Clinics during the year, 38.

(*d*) Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the number in (*c*), 8.5.

SUPPLY OF MILK AND FOOD.

MILK.

Terms of Supply.	Expectant Mothers.	Nursing Mothers.	Children under 5 years of age.
Free, or at less than cost price in necessitous cases	Yes	Yes	Yes
At cost price in other cases (*e.g.*, sale of dried milk at Centres)	Yes	Yes	Yes

Number of women sent by the Council during the year to a Maternity Institution, 6.

6. Administration of Part I. of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by Part V. of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

(*a*) Number of persons on the Register who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year, 3.

(*b*) Number of children on the Register:

(1) At the end of the year, 3.

(2) Who died during the year, 0.

(3) On whom inquests were held during the year, 0.

(*c*) Number of Infant Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were:

(1) Health Visitors, 1.

(*d*) Number of orders obtained during the year under Section 67 of the Act of 1932:

(1) From a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, —.

(2) From a single Justice, 1.

Approximate average weekly attendances at Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres:—

CHALKWELL CENTRES.	TUNSTALL
(Twice weekly)	(Fortnightly)
Mothers, 80.	Mothers, 10.
Babies, 86.	Babies, 12.
BAYFORD ROAD.	NEWINGTON.
(Fortnightly)	(Fortnightly)
Mothers, 15.	Mothers, 13.
Babies, 18.	Babies, 15.

The work of the Centres is increasing steadily, and outstripping the accommodation of the premises. On "Clinic Days" there is much overcrowding, and there is a great need for a modern building, more centrally situated, which would make it possible to close some of the smaller Centres.

While much is done by these Centres, there is need for more home visitation. That, at present with a single Health Visitor for such a large and scattered district, is impossible in the time she has at her disposal—four afternoons out of five being taken up with attendances at Welfare Centres and once a month the fifth afternoon she attends the Ante-Natal Clinic.

There is a great need for another Health Visitor to assist in visiting the homes in the outlying rural parishes, which are very scattered and long distances apart.

It is to be hoped that next year, when with the alteration of boundaries the Milton Rural District will be incorporated with the Faversham Rural District in the new Swale District, this will be an accomplished fact.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

This is held once a month by Dr. Crerar as part-time Medical Officer, with the assistance of the Health Visitor, for the examination and advice of expectant mothers in the event of any abnormality being discovered.

Medical practitioners were notified of the Clinic, and invited to send any of their patients when a second opinion was desired.

Midwives were also invited to send their patients for ante-natal examination, and this has been done in many cases. If any serious defect is discovered the Midwife is informed of the abnormality, and advised to send the patient to a medical practitioner.

In the Rural Area general practitioners practising in the area were invited, at a specified fee, to undertake the ante-natal examination of uninsured women who have

engaged midwives for their confinement, but who are unable to pay the medical fee.

During the year there were 54 attendances of 38 expectant mothers.

In very necessitous cases help is given in the form of milk food.

During the year the total amount of milk granted to mothers and children under the Milk Order, free, was:—

Sittingbourne and Milton—3,029 pints of milk; 351 pounds of dried milk.

Milton Rural.—1,240 pints of milk; 40 pounds of dried milk.

Dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age is in force.

Bad teeth in expectant mothers is a potential source of infection, and may be conducive of puerperal fever, and affect breast feeding when nursing.

ADMISSION OF CONFINEMENT CASES TO HOSPITAL.

Arrangements have been made with the Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Nursing Home, Gillingham, and at Cliff House Maternity Home, Minster, Sheppey, for the reception of patients in complicated cases, where the home conditions of the patients are unsuitable.

During the year 6 patients were admitted at reduced fees.

TREATMENT OF SQUINT.

The services of the School Oculist and the facilities of the School Ophthalmic Clinic are available for cases of squint under school age.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The local Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have arranged to participate in the County Scheme for the treatment of crippled children.

This scheme involves the services of a specialist surgeon, the necessary arrangements for securing indoor hospital or out-patient treatment, and after care treatment.

The majority of cases at the Orthopædic Clinic are treated for rickets and its attendant troubles, including club foot, knock-knees and bow legs. Congenital dislocation of the hip is corrected; spinal curvatures and similar malformations are also dealt with.

During the year 17 patients attended the Orthopædic Out-patients' Clinic at Sheerness on 38 occasions.

MIDWIVES.

1. (*a*) Number practising in the area served by the Committee for Maternity and Child Welfare at the end of the year, 6.

(*b*) Number (1)—Employed by the Committee, nil.

(2)—Subsidised by the Committee, nil.

(3)—Employed by Voluntary Associations, 3.

MATERNAL DEATHS.

Number of women who died in, or in consequence of, childbirth in the area served by the Committee for Maternity and Child Welfare during the year:—

(1)—From sepsis, 3.

(2)—From other causes, 1.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Number of cases notified during the year.	Number of cases visited by Officers of the Council.	Number of cases where home nursing was provided by the Council.	Number of Cases removed to Hospital.
(1) Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Puerperal Fever ...	2	2	Nil	2
(4) Puerperal Pyrexia ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(5) Measles and German Measles (in children under 5 years of age)	Not notifiable	—	—	—
(6) Whooping Cough ,,	,,	—	—	—
(7) Diarrhœa ,,	,,	—	—	—
(8) Poliomyelitis ,,	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Arrangements for treatment of these cases have been made with the following Hospitals:—

Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.

7/- per day for mother and child, or 4/6 per day if child only admitted.

Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone.

£3 3s. per week for mother and child, or £2 2s. per week if child only admitted.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

Admission only until transfer can be arranged to Ophthalmic Institution.

Number of cases notified during the year, 0.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS' ACT, 1932.

The provisions relating to Infant Life Protection is in operation, and repeal the greater part of Part I. (Infant Life Protection) of the Children Act, 1908.

By these provisions the proper supervision of boarded-out children is rendered more possible, as a number of loop-holes which existed under the 1908 Act are now closed.

(1) The age is raised from 7 to 9 years.

(2) Notice must be sent to the Local Authority at least seven days before receiving the child, instead of within 48 hours after.

By these and other enactments the very necessary supervision of boarded-out children will be rendered more efficient.

(*a*) Number of persons on the Register who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year, 3.

(*b*) Number of children on the Register:—

(1) At the end of the year, 3.

(2) Who died during the year, 0.

(3) On whom inquests were held during the year, 0.

(4) Number of orders obtained during the year under Section 67 of the Act of 1932:—

(1) From a Court of Summary jurisdiction, nil.

(2) From a single Justice, 1.

A COMPARISON OF THE CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE COMBINED DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1934.

	Sittingbourne and Milton	Milton Rural	Combined District, 1934	Combined District, 1933
Measles	6	1	7	1
Whooping Cough	4	—	4	1
Influenza	4	1	5	19
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	1	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	18	6	24	20
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	1	1	2	1
Syphilis	—	—	—	2
General paralysis of the Insane, tabes dorsalis ...	1	2	3	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	31	13	44	36
Diabetes	—	1	1	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ...	20	6	26	19
Heart Disease	54	25	79	82
Aneurysm	—	—	—	1
Other Circulatory Diseases ..	12	4	16	20
Bronchitis	18	1	19	14
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	16	7	23	15
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	-	—	—	1
Peptic Ulcer	4	—	4	1
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)...	—	—	—	2
Appendicitis	2	2	4	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	4
Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ..	1	—	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases ...	7	5	12	5
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	15	6	21	13
Puerperal Sepsis	1	2	3	1
Other Puerperal Causes ...	1	—	1	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. ...	8	4	12	17
Suicide	2	1	3	8
Other Violence	8	5	13	7
Other Defined Diseases (including old age)	30	16	46	44
Totals ...	265	109	374	344

PREVALENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS IN THE COMBINED MILTON SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON RURAL DISTRICT.

During the year Tuberculosis was the cause of 26 deaths, as compared with 22 in the previous year, 23 in 1932, 18 in 1931, 32 in 1930.

The 26 deaths in 1934 were distributed as follows:—Sittingbourne and Milton Regis, 19; Milton Rural, 7.

Tuberculosis of the Lungs was the cause of death in 24 cases, and other forms of Tuberculosis in 2.

The average age at death was 37.4 years.

During the year 22 notifications of Tuberculosis were received as follows:—Sittingbourne and Milton, 18; Milton Rural, 4.

TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930.

At the end of the year there were 346 cases on the Tuberculosis Register.

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
No. on Register, 1st Jan., 1934	289	75	364
No. on Register, 31st Dec., 1934	274	72	346

Of the above cases 12 were cured, 11 removed to other Districts, and 25 died. There were 30 fresh cases added to the Register.

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of patients from this area dealt with at the County Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year 1934, as supplied by Dr. John Robson, the Tuberculosis Officer:—

Number of New Cases	74
Total number of attendances (old and new) ...	556
Number sent to Institutions	15

Sixteen of the cases were found to have definite pulmonary tuberculosis.

The above figures are for the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban and Rural District.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

There was no necessity to take any action under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

There was no necessity to take any action under these Regulations.

SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON COMBINED DISTRICTS.

A comparison of the cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1934 in the Combined Districts.

	Sittingbourne and Milton.	Milton Rural.	Combined District 1934.	Combined District 1933.
Diphtheria	20	2	22	18
Scarlet Fever	30	10	40	67
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15	4	19	29
Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	—	3	3
Pneumonia	8	2	10	10
Erysipelas	19	3	22	10
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Fever	1	1	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1
	97	22	119	141

The case rates of these diseases for England and Wales per 1,000 civilian population are as follows:—Small-pox, 0.00; Scarlet Fever, 3.76; Diphtheria, 1.70; Enteric Fever, 0.03; Erysipelas, 0.51; Puerperal Fever, 4.0; and Puerperal Pyrexia, 9.6 per 1,000 total births (*i.e.*, live and still-births) registered during the year.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the year 706 school notifications of these diseases were received, as compared with 228 in the previous year.

No. of Notifications.	1934.	1933.	1932.	1931.	1930.
Mumps	24	2	2	—	6
Tonsillitis	2	2	—	—	—
German Measles	12	9	26	1	1
Measles	447	43	12	139	70
Whooping Cough	180	20	64	8	79
Chicken Pox	14	152	74	49	46
	679	228	178	197	202

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

This involves inspection of dairies, cowsheds, bakehouses, butchers' shops, slaughterhouses, fried fish shops, ice cream stores, pressed and preserved meat premises, and restaurants.

Specimens of milk are taken for examination for the number of organisms present, but the County Council is the responsible authority for sampling under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1928.

I am indebted to the Superintendent of Police, Sittingbourne, for a report on the administration of this Act.

Commodity.	Sittingbourne and Milton.	Milton Rural.
Butter	18	7
Cream	5	—
Coffee	5	2
Cocoa	3	1
Cheese	2	—
Cod Liver Oil	3	—
Ether Nit	1	—
Flour	—	3
Iodine, Tinc.	2	—
Jam	2	4
Lard	8	4
Margarine	12	7
Milk	39	11
Mustard	—	1
Quinine	2	—
Sugar	—	5
Tea	—	3

No proceedings were taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health & Sanitary Condition

of the

Rural District of Milton

for the Year 1934.

Milton Rural District Council.

Chairman—W. J. THOMAS.

Vice-Chairman—A. CLARK.

COUNCILLOR T. GOODHEW.
,, J. C. HARLOW.
,, A. HINGE.
,, W. HOOKER.
,, G. E. MANNERING.
,, E. STEVENS, J.P.
,, G. E. W. STEVENS.
,, W. S. STEVENS.
,, REV. E. W. T. TAYLOR-JONES.
,, G. H. WILLS.
,, W. F. WOOD, J.P.

Clerk to the Council—E. CECIL HARRIS, Solicitor.

Surveyor—

L. A. RANDERSON, M.Inst.M., and Cy.E.

Sanitary Inspector and Food Inspector—

J. VARLEY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Health Visitor—

MRS. F. D. TAYLOR, State Registered Nurse and Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit my Thirteenth Annual Report for the year 1934.

Population.—The estimated population is 7,198. The acreage of the area being 22,624.

Birth Rate.—During the year the number of births was 124, comprising 66 males and 58 females, which is equivalent to a birth rate of 17.2 per 1,000 of the population. Illegitimate births, 7.

Death Rate.—The number of deaths was 109, 58 males and 51 females, which is equivalent to a death rate of 15.1 per 1,000. The chief causes of death were:—(1) Heart Disease; (2) Cancer; (3) Old Age.

Infant Mortality Rate.—During the year there were 5 deaths of infants under one year of age, equivalent to 40.3 per 1,000 births.

Maternal Mortality.—There were two deaths in Hospital from Puerperal Sepsis.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year there were 22 cases of these diseases (including Tuberculosis) notified, as compared with 41 in the previous year. These consisted of:—

Diphtheria.—Two cases treated in Hospital. No deaths.

Scarlet Fever.—Ten cases. No deaths or "return" cases. All treated in Hospital.

Enteric Fever.—Nil.

Tuberculosis.—Four cases, all pulmonary.

Puerperal Fever.—One case, which died in Hospital.

Other Notifiable Diseases.—Pneumonia, 2; Erysipelas, 3.

Housing.—During the year there were no houses built by the Local Authority, but there were 86 built by private enterprise. Under the Housing Act, 1930, it was resolved to demolish 11 houses, seven at Newington and four at Bapchild.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
A. J. WERNET, M.B. (Lond.), D.P.H.
Surgeon Captain, R.N. (Ret.).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres).—22,624.

Population (Census, 1931).—7,084. Registrar-General's estimate, 1934, 7,198.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1934) *according to Rate Books*:—

Bapchild	77	Kingsdown ...	16
Bobbing	174	Milstead	52
Borden	320	Newington ..	374
Bredgar	155	Rodmersham ...	93
Halstow	159	Tonge	108
Hartlip	110	Tunstall	52
Iwade	60	Upchurch	304
	Total 2,054		

Rateable Value.—£28,515.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1934-1935.—£108 11s. 3d. In 1934-1935 the total Rates were 9s. 6d. in the £.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births (Legitimate)	117	64	53
Live Births (Illegitimate)	7	2	5
Still Births	1	—	1
Deaths	109	58	51

Birth Rate per 1,000 *of the Estimated Resident Population.*—17.2.

Still Births.—Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still).—12.

Death Rate per 1,000 *of the estimated resident Population.*—15.1.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

Deaths.—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 17.

Puerperal Sepsis.—2.

Other Puerperal causes.—0.

Total.—2.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 *Live Births.*—40.3.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 *Legitimate Live Births.*—42.7.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 *Illegitimate Live Births.*—Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).—1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).—Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age).—Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH REGISTERED DURING 1934.

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Measles	—	1	1
Influenza	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	4	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	1	—	1
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes dorsalis	2	—	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	8	5	13
Diabetes	—	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	3	3	6
Heart Disease .. .	12	13	25
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	3	4
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	4	7
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases	5	—	5
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ..	1	5	6
Puerperal Sepsis	—	2	2
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	3	1	4
Senility	4	1	5
Suicide	—	1	1
Other Violence	4	1	5
Other Defined Diseases	6	5	11
Totals ..	58	51	109

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE DURING 1934.

Sex	Age	Certified Cause of Death
Male	1 day	Congenital Debility. Premature Birth.
Female	1 month	Marasmus.
Male	3 days	Asphyxia due to overlaying.
Male	2 months	Congenital Heart Disease.
Male	2 hours	Atelectasis.

Four Males, 1 Female. Total, 5.

NOTIFIABLE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1934.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria	2	2	—
Scarlet Fever	10	10	—
Pneumonia	2	—	1
Erysipelas	3	3	
Puerperal Fever	1	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

There was a decrease in notifications of new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs, 4 cases being notified, compared with 5 in the previous year.

The figures for the years 1930 to 1934 were as follows:—

Year.	Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Non-Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1930	9	1.2	4	0.5
1931	8	1.1	—	—
1932	4	0.5	—	—
1933	5	0.6	2	0.2
1934	4	0.5	—	—

There were 6 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, all notified previous to death.

The Regulations of 1925 provide for the compulsory discontinuance of a person suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, and who is in an infectious state, from employment involving the handling, etc., of milk. No action was taken under them during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930.

Under these Regulations the Medical Officer of Health is required to keep an up-to-date register of all notified cases.

The cases during the year were as shown:—

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
No. on Register, 1st Jan., 1934	61	29	90
No. on Register, 31st Dec., 1934	53	28	81

Of the above cases 3 were cured, 3 removed to other Districts, and 7 died. Four fresh cases were added to the Register.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmon.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmon.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year.	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10-15	...		...	...	...	...	...	...
15-20	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20-35	1	...	...	...	...	3	1	...
35-45	1	...	. .	.	1	1	...	...
45-55 ...	...	1	...	...	..	...	...	...
55-65	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 & over	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	3	1	...	...	2	4	1	...

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE.

According to the Registrar-General's Returns, deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs numbered 6, giving a death rate of 0.8 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.4 per 1,000 in the previous year.

The following table is inserted for purposes of comparison:—

Year.	Deaths.			Death Rates per 1,000 of Population.		
	All Forms	Pulmon.	Non-Pulmon.	All Forms	Pulmon.	Non-Pulmon.
1930	4	4	—	0·5	0·5	—
1931	7	6	1	1·1	0·8	0·1
1932	11	10	1	1·5	1·3	0·1
1933	3	3	—	0·4	0·4	—
1934	7	6	1	0·9	0·8	0·1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

There was no necessity to take any action under these Regulations.

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	1	—	6	1	—	1	—	—	—	10
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Total	—	—	1	1	—	6	1	1	4	2	1	1	18

INFECTIOUS CASES NOTIFIED IN THE DIFFERENT PARISHES.

Disease	Bapchild	Bobbing	Borden	Bredgar	Lr. Halstow	Hartlip	Newington	Tonge	Tunstall	Upchurch	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	-	2	4	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	10
Diphtheria ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Tuberculosis of Lungs	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	4
Pneumonia ...	-	-		-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Erysipelas ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
Puerperal Fever ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals ...	1	3	4	1	2	3	2	1	2	3	22

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

Nursing in the Home.—District Nurses are engaged in most of these Parishes, and are retained by voluntary subscriptions.

Midwives.—Three, in private practice.

Health Clinics and Treatment Centres.—School Clinic, Albany Street, Sittingbourne, Saturday mornings, from 10 to 12.

Dental Clinic.—Albany Street, Sittingbourne, Fridays, from 10 o'clock all day.

Eye Clinic.—Albany Street, Sittingbourne, on Tuesdays, when required, at 9.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.—Two. Newington, every alternate Tuesday, 2 to 4 p.m. Tunstall, every alternate Tuesday, 2 to 4 p.m. Both by Local Authority.

Clinic for Expectant Mothers.—Held at Chalkwell Centre, Sittingbourne. Every fourth Friday in month, from 2 to 4 p.m. By Local Authority.

Tuberculosis Dispensary. — Albany Street, Sittingbourne, Mondays, by County Council, from 12.30 to 1.30.

Hospitals.—

1. Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Nursing Home, Barnsole Road, Gillingham. Arrangements have been made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee by which local patients desiring admission for confinement can be received at reduced fees.

2. A. Keycol Hill Infectious Hospital. No. of beds 102, provided by Local Authority.

   B. Keycol Hill Tuberculosis Sanatorium. No. of beds 66 (60 by County Council, 6 by Local Authority).

3. Memorial Hospital, Sittingbourne. No. of beds 14, and 3 cots.

Institutional Treatment for Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.—There are none in the district.

Ambulance Facilities.—(1) For infectious cases. The Local Authority provides a Motor Ambulance. (2) For non-infectious and accident cases. The Local Authority provides a Motor Ambulance.

Laboratory Work. — Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Kent County Council Laboratory, and analyses of water, etc., by the County Analyst, Maidstone.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

(1) Number of applicants for registration.—Nil.

(2) Number of Homes registered.—Nil.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Maternal Deaths and cases of Puerperal Fever investigated by the Medical Officer of Health.—Maternal Deaths, two, from Puerperal Sepsis in Hospital.

SCHOOL NOTIFCATIONS OF NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES FROM ALL THE SCHOOLS IN THE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1934.

	Mumps.	Tonsilitis.	German Measles	Measles.	Whooping Cough	Chicken Pox
January	...	...	...	1	1	7
February	2	...	...	29	1	1
March	...	1	..	41	7	1
April	..	..	1	6	...	...
May	...	...	2	10	4	...
June	...	...	1	1	2	...
July	1	...	...	...	...	..
August	...	...	...	...	...	...
September	...	...	...	...	...	1
October	...	...	...	...	...	...
November	...	...	...	...	.	...
December	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	3	1	4	88	15	10

Measles was very prevalent in the months of February and March.

GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply.—This, taken as a whole, is very satisfactory, both as regards purity and quantity. The district is supplied by the Sittingbourne and Milton Waterworks, the Rainham Waterworks, and the Mid-Kent Water Company. The Sittingbourne and Milton Waterworks supply the following parishes:—Bapchild and Iwade. The Rainham Works supply Upchurch, Hartlip, Newington, Lower Halstow and Bobbing. The Mid-Kent Company supply Kingsdown, Milsted, Rodmersham, Bredgar, Borden, Tonge, and Tunstall.

Common Lodging Houses.—There are none in the district.

Slaughter Houses.—There are 6 Slaughter Houses in the district, as follows:—Bredgar, 1; Newington, 1; Bapchild, 1; Borden, 2; and Upchurch, 1.

Cowsheds.—There are 17 registered in the district, as follows:—Bapchild, 2; Bobbing, 1; Bredgar, 3; Lower Halstow, 2; Kingsdown, 1; Milsted, 4; Rodmersham, 1; Tunstall, 1; Upchurch, 2.

HOUSING.

Under the Housing Act, 1930, it was resolved to demolish 11 houses—seven at Newington and four at Bapchild. (In the latter case the order is suspended by consent until alternate accommodation is provided, by order of the County Court Judge, July 10th, 1934.)

Number of persons displaced:—Newington, 26; Bapchild, 8.

MILTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1934.

HOUSING (Inspection of District) REGULATIONS.

During the year inspections made under these Regulations have been of a general character, with a view of keeping in touch with all the Parishes.

Under the Housing Act, 1930, it was resolved to demolish 11 houses, seven at Newington and four at Bapchild.

Four hundred and eighty-seven inspections of houses have been made, and it was found necessary to send out 44 Intimation Notices and 3 Statutory Notices. The number of nuisances and defects dealt with being 85.

During the year 15 complaints were received, and these were promptly dealt with.

INFECTION AND DISINFECTION.

Investigations were made and the necessary disinfection carried out in connection with 10 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 cases of Diphtheria, and 4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND FOODSHOPS.

There are 7 Slaughter Houses in use in your District. These are regularly inspected and kept according to Bye-Laws.

During the year it was found necessary to condemn as unfit for human consumption 1,262lbs. of Beef.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS' ACT.

There are 14 Factories and 24 Workshops on the Register. Periodical inspections are made, special attention being given to cleanliness and sanitary arrangements.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 17 Cowsheds in your District, distributed as follows:—Bapchild, 2; Bobbing, 1; Bredgar, 3; Lower Halstow, 2; Kingsdown, 1; Milsted, 4; Rodmersham, 1; Tunstall, 1; and Upchurch, 2.

Frequent inspections are made of the premises, and special attention is paid to the cleanliness of cattle and utensils. Generally speaking the Cowkeepers are endeavouring to produce a clean milk.

Many samples of milk have been taken for bacteriological examination, and a good standard has been maintained.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary arrangements in connection with the Schools are periodically inspected, and usually found in a clean condition.

With one exception, Milsted School, all are on the water carriage system.

The work during the year has been carried on very smoothly, and nothing of an outstanding nature has arisen.

May I take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for their helpful co-operation?

I am,

Yours obediently,

JOSEPH VARLEY.

HOUSING.

1.—*Inspection of Dwelling Houses.*

(1)	Total number of dwelling houses *inspected* for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	487
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	531
(2)	Number of dwelling houses (included under the preceding heading) which were *inspected* and *recorded* under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	122
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	142
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	44

2.—*Remedy of Defects* WITHOUT *service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of *informal* action by the Local Authority or their officers 41

3.—*Action under Statutory Powers.*

A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 3

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices:—

(*a*) By Owners 3

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which such defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(*a*) By Owners 0

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 10

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health & Sanitary Condition

of the

Sittingbourne and Milton
Urban District

for the Year 1934

Sittingbourne & Milton Urban District Council.

Chairman—T. BUGGS.*

Vice-Chairman—A. L. BAKER.

Councillor	A. J. BEDELLE.
,,	F. CLOKE.* (Chairman of Health Committee).
,,	H. FOSTER.
,,	R. J. GOLDSMITH.*
,,	E. F. HANDCOCK, J.P.
,,	W. E. JARRETT.
,,	P. J. JEFFERY.*
,,	E. LITTLEWOOD.*
,,	H. D. ORROM.
,,	J. L. PRIOR.*
,,	F. READ.
,,	H. H. SCATTERGOOD.*
,,	E. J. SMITH.
,,	W. E. SPICE.*
,,	F. L. WALSH.
,,	A. S. WELLS.*

Note.—Those marked * are Members of the Health Committee.

Clerk to the Council—G. H. POTTER.

Surveyors—

M. W. LASHMAR, M.Inst.M. and Cy.E.
A. W. CALLAWAY, M. & C.E., M.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector—

JOSEPH VARLEY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Health Visitor—

Mrs. F. D. TAYLOR, State Registered Nurse, and Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit my Thirteenth Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1934.

Population.—The population for 1934 is estimated to be 20,480. As ascertained at the Census in April, 1931, it was 20,177.

Birth Rate.—The total number of births registered was 329, consisting of 157 males and 172 females. This represents a birth rate of 16.06 per 1,000 of the estimated population. In the previous year it was 17.1 per 1,000.

Death Rate.—The number of deaths of residents was 265, of which 151 were males and 114 females. The death rate is therefore 12.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The chief causes of death were:—(1) Heart Disease; (2) Cancer; (3) Old Age.

Natural Increase of Population.—The excess of births over deaths was 64, as compared with 94 in the previous year.

Infantile Mortality.—During the year there were 18 deaths of infants under one year of age, equivalent to 54 per 1,000 live births. Last year it was 22 in number.

Maternal Mortality.—There were two deaths from Puerperal causes.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year there were (including Tuberculosis) 97 cases notified, as compared with 100 in the previous year. These included:—

Scarlet Fever.—Thirty cases, as compared with 47 in the previous year. All except one treated in Hospital. No deaths.

Diphtheria.—Twenty cases, all treated in Hospital. No deaths.

Typhoid Fever.—Nil.

Tuberculosis.—There were 15 Pulmonary and 3 Non-Pulmonary cases notified, as compared with 24 Pulmonary and one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the previous year.

Other Notifiable Diseases.—Pneumonia, 8; Encephalitis Lethargica, 1; and Erysipelas, 19.

Housing.—During the year 234 houses were built—114 by private enterprise and 120 by the Council. Of the latter, 12 houses have been allocated for tenants removed from houses required to be demolished under your Slum Clearance Scheme.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. WERNET, M.B. (Lond.), D.P.H.,
Surgeon Captain, R.N. (Ret.).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres).—5,121.

Population (Census, 1931).—20,177. Registrar-General's estimate, 1934, 20,480.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1934) *according to Rate Books.*—5,512.

Rateable Value (April, 1934).—£97,301.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1934-1935.—£385 11s. 9d. The rate in the £ for the year for the Council's own purposes was 4s. 11d. County Council, 6s. 11d. Total, 11s. 10d.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births (Legitimate) ...	321	154	167
Live Births (Illegitimate) ...	8	3	5
Still Births	10	6	4
Deaths	265	151	114

Birth Rate per 1,000 *of the Estimated Resident Population.*—16.06.

Still Births.—Rate per 1,000 total births, 32.

Death Rate per 1,000 *of the Estimated Resident Population.*—12.9.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

Deaths.—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 5.8. Puerperal Sepsis, 1; Other Puerperal Causes, 1; total, 2.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births, 54; Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 49; illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, 250.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).—Six.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).—Four.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age).—Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING 1934.

Disease.	Males	Females	Total
Measles	2	4	6
Whooping Cough	—	4	4
Influenza	3	1	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	11	7	18
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	1	1
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes dorsalis	1	—	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	18	13	31
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	9	11	20
Heart Disease	34	20	54
Other Ciculatory Diseases	5	7	12
Bronchitis...	11	7	18
Pneumonia (all forms)	9	7	16
Peptic Ulcer	4	—	4
Appendicitis	—	2	2
Other diseases of Liver, etc. ...	—	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	4	3	7
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	6	9	15
Puerperal Sepsis	—	1	1
Other Puerperal Causes	—	1	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	7	1	8
Senility	4	1	5
Suicide	2	—	2
Other Violence	7	1	8
Other Defined Diseases	14	11	25
Totals ...	151	114	265

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Nursing in the Home.—Two District Nurses provided by the Sittingbourne, Milton Regis and Murston Nursing Association.

Midwives.—Two, in private practice.

Health Clinics and Treatment Centres.—School Clinic, Albany Street, Sittingbourne, Saturday mornings, from 10 to 12, by County Council.

Dental Clinic.—Albany Strreet, Sittingbourne. Friday, from 10 o'clock, all day. By County Council.

Eye Clinic.—Albany Street, Sittingbourne, on Tuesdays, when required, at 9.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. By County Council.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.—Two. Chalkwell, Sittingbourne, Monday and Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4, and once a month on Fridays, for children, 2-5 years of age. Bayford Road, Sittingbourne, every alternate Wednesday, 2 to 4. By Local Authority.

Clinic for Expectant Mothers.—Held at Chalkwell Centre, Sittingbourne, every fourth Friday in month, from 2 to 4. By Local Authority.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.—Albany Street, Sittingbourne, Mondays, from 12.30 to 1.30. By County Council.

HOSPITALS.

1. Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Nursing Home, Barnsole Road, Gillingham. Arrangements have been made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee by which local patients desiring admission for confinement can be received at reduced fees.

2. A. Keycol Hill Infectious Hospital. No. of beds, 102, provided by Local Authority.

   B. Keycol Hill Tuberculosis Sanatorium. No. of beds, 66 (60 by County Council, 6 by Local Authority).

3. Memorial Hospital, Sittingbourne. No. of beds, 14, and 3 cots.

Institutional Treatment for Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.—There are none in the district.

Ambulance Facilities.—(1) For infectious cases. The Local Authority provides a Motor Ambulance. (2) For non-infectious and accident cases. The Local Authority provides a Motor Ambulance.

Laboratory Work.—Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Kent County Council Laboratory, and anaylses of water, etc., by the County Analyst, Maidstone.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

(1) Number of Applications for Registration.—Nil.

(2) Number of Homes Registered.—Two.

Maternal Mortality.—Maternal deaths and cases of Puerperal Fever investigated by the Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Sanitary Inspector.—Certified Royal Sanitary Institute, Certified Meat Inspector.

Health Visitor.—State Registered Nurse and Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

NOTIFIABLE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1934.

Disease	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	30	29	Nil
Diphtheria	20	20	Nil
Erysipelas	19	15	2
Pneumonia	8	2	1
Puerperal Fever ..	1	1	Nil
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	Nil	1

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1934.

	Chicken Pox	Measles	German Measles	Mumps	Whooping Cough	Tonsilitis
January	..	22	...	5	44	1
February	...	290	...	4	35	...
March...	...	39	...	...	10	...
April ...	...	4	...	4	19	...
May ...	...	1	4	...	11	.
June ...	...	2	3	1	20	.
July ...	...	1	...	...	5	..
August	...	...	2	...	...	...
September	...	...	...	...	...	...
October	3	...	...	4	2	...
November	...	...	...	...	19	...
December	...	...	..	2	...	...
Totals	3	359	9	20	165	1

The Council acting as the Sanitary Authority of the district authorised the closure of the Sittingbourne St. Michael's School, Infants' Department; St. Michael's Mission School, Infants' Department; the Butts School, Infants' School; Ufton Lane Council School, and Sittingbourne Council School, Standard I., from February 24th, 1934, to March 5th, 1934, on account of Measles.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There was a decrease in notifications of new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs from 24 cases in 1933 to 15 cases in 1934.

The figures for the years 1930 to 1934 were as follows:—

Year.	Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Non-Pulmonary.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1930	30	1.50	3	0.11
1931	19	0.90	8	0.30
1932	20	0.90	3	0.10
1933	24	1.1	1	0.05
1934	15	0.7	3	0.1

Notifications of Tuberculosis in this District good. There were no refusals to notify.

The Regulations of 1925 provide for the compulsory discontinuance of a person suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, and who is in an infectious state, from employment involving the handling, etc., of milk. No action was taken under them during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930.

Under these Regulations the Medical Officer of Health is required to keep an up-to-date register of all notified cases.

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
No. on Register, 1st Jan., 1934	228	46	274
No. on Register, 31st Dec., 1934	221	44	265

Of the above cases, 9 were cured, 8 removed to other districts, 18 died. Twenty-six fresh cases were added to the register.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

There was no necessity to take any action under these Regulations.

Table compiled from Local Records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases and deaths during 1934.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon.		Pulmonary		Non Pulmon.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5 ..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
5-10 ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
10-15 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-20 ...	...	..	...	...	...	...	..	...
20-35 ..	6	4	...	1	6	5	..	.
35-45 ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45-55 ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
55-65 ...	1	1	1	...	3	...	..	...
65 & over	..	..	...	...	1	1	...	...
Totals ..	9	6	1	2	11	6	...	1

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE.

The death rate is about the same as in the previous year. According to the Registrar-General's returns, deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs numbered 18, giving a death rate of 0.8 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.8 per 1,000 in the previous year, and from other forms 1, or a death rate of 0.04 per 1,000 of the population.

The following table is inserted for purposes of comparison:—

	Deaths.			Death Rate per 1,000 of Population.		
Year.	All Forms.	Pulmon.	Non-Pulmon.	All Forms.	Pulmon.	Non-Pulmon.
1930	28	24	4	1·4	1·2	0·2
1931	11	9	2	0·5	0·4	0·0
1932	14	12	2	0·6	0·5	0.0
1933	18	17	1	0·8	0·8	0.05
1934	19	18	1	0·9	0·8	0·04

AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED.

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total
Diphtheria	—	1	1	—	1	8	2	1	2	2	2	—	20
Scarlet Fever	1	2	3	—	1	14	4	3	1	1	-	—	30
Pneumonia	—	-	2	—	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	8
Erysipelas	—	—	—		1	—	1	1	5	3	4	4	19
Puerperal Fever	—	—	-	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals ...	1	3	6	-	5	24	7	5	10	7	7	4	79

PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

Houses Let in Lodgings.—There are two houses let in lodgings, and five common Lodging Houses in the Sittingbourne and Milton District. Frequent visits are made to ensure confirmation with the bye-laws.

Fried Fish Shops.—There are 9 in the District.

Rag and Bone Dealers.—There are 3 in the District.

Bakehouses.—Seven.

Meat.—There are 11 Slaughter Houses in the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District.

During 1933 "The Slaughter of Animals Act" was passed. This Act includes the use of a mechanically operated instrument for the stunning of animals before slaughter, and the licensing of slaughtermen. As a result all Bovines and Pigs slaughtered in your District are first stunned with a mechanically operated instrument.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924.

Under these Regulations three hours' notice is required to be given of intending slaughtering, except where it is the regular practice to slaughter at fixed times and on fixed days.

MILK.

There are 4 cowkeepers, 7 milkshops and dairies, and 25 purveyors of milk in the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District.

A number of shopkeepers are selling "Sterilised Milk," which is sold in sealed bottles only. There are no retailers of "Grade A" milk in the District.

There is one retailer of Pasteurised Milk in the District.

Frequent inspections are made of premises where milk is produced and retailed, and in addition periodical samples of milk are taken for bacteriological examination.

HOUSING.

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

Under Section 19 of this Act 31 individual unfit houses were dealt with—no improvement or clearance areas having been represented. Of this number eight are to be demolished and the remainder were dealt with by accepting an undertaking from the owners to make them fit for habitation, the persons displaced from them being housed in Council houses set apart for that purpose.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Council have given very careful consideration to the supply of water to their District. The very large development of the District; increased consumption of water per head (no doubt due to the great improvement in sanita-

tion and installation of baths to all new dwellings); and the effect of the past three dry years has considerably aggravated the need for an improved supply of water, although at no time has the water been cut off from any portion of the District.

Water is now supplied from two pumping stations:—

(*a*) At Keycol Hill, Bobbing and

(*b*) At Highsted Valley, within the Urban area.

(*a*) *The Keycol Hill Waterworks* were opened in 1870 by the late Sittingbourne Urban District Council. New pumps were installed in the West Well of these works in 1930.

The fall off in the yield is shown by the following:—

Water Rest Level below Engine House Floor Level:—

May,	1928	.....	139ft. 6in. (highest)
Dec.,	1931	.....	151ft. 10in.
Dec.,	1932	.....	154ft. 4in.
Dec.,	1933	.....	157ft. 10in.
Dec.,	1934	.....	162ft. 5in. (lowest)

Yield from East Well Pump:—

1925	.....	19,000	gallons	per	hour
1927	.....	20,500	,,	,,	,,
1932	.....	12,712	,,	,,	,,
1933	.....	12,585	,,	,,	,,

In 1934 it was only possible to run this pump for a short period of not more than one hour per day, owing to the fall of the yield and rest level.

Yield from West Well Pump (installed 1930):—
New Pump sunk to a depth of 74ft. lower than East Well—

1932	.....	23,052	gallons	per	hour
1933	.....	23,553	,,	,,	,,
1934	.....	19,778	,,	,,	,,

The highest average yield for any one week day in 1934 was the first week in January at 21,812 gallons per hour. The yield fell away to 18,235 gallons per hour during the second week in December.

(*b*) *The Highsted Waterworks* was erected in 1904 by the late Milton Regis Urban District Council. The pumping plant is as originally installed.

The fall off in the yield is shown by the following:—

Water Rest Level below the Surface:—

April, 1928	40ft. 4in.	(highest)
Dec., 1931	54ft. 10in.	
Dec., 1932	61ft. 3in.	
Dec., 1933	68ft. 3in.	
Dec., 1934	72ft. 2in.	(lowest)

Yield from Wells:—

1922	17,000 gallons per hour
1924	17,800 ,, ,, ,,
1926	17,155 ,, ,, ,,

The yield from the Well for the later part of 1934 was approximately 13,000 gallons per hour, for a day of 17 hours. The Water Level in that time being reduced to suction level.

Following a report to the Waterworks Committee by Mr. M. W. Lashmar, M.I.M. & Cy.E., the Council's Surveyor, dated the 18th March, 1933, the Council approved the Committee's Report and sought the advice of Mr. A. P. I. Cotterell, M.I.C.E., as to the improvement of the supply. He confirmed the Surveyor's report.

The Council put in hand the recommendation and sought approval of the Ministry of Health for a loan to sink a New Well into the chalk at Highsted, close to the existing Works to a depth of 200ft. Following this a local Inquiry was held at Sittingbourne by Mr. J. Gardiner, M.I.C.E., Engineering Inspector to the Ministry, on the 15th March, 1934, and the loan was approved.

The work of sinking the Well is now completed, and an abundant supply of water has been found.

Test pumping at the rate of 70,000 gallons per hour continuous for 14 days (equal to $11\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons per week) has been carried out, the result being the lowering of the Water Level in the New Well from 70ft. 3ins. to 109ft. 6ins.

Such a quantity, recorded after three dry years, should prove ample for the requirements of the District for many years.

The approximate weekly consumption of water supplied by the Council is 4,000,000 gallons.

The Council are now considering the erection of a new Pumping Station over the New Well, and the installation of a Water Softening Plant.

The water is analysed twice yearly, both bacteriologically and chemically.

The following is the chemical analysis of a sample of water taken from the Sittingbourne and Milton Water Supply during the year:—

KEYCOL HILL WATERWORKS.

	Parts per 100,000.
Total Solid Residue	36.0
Chlorine	2.4
Free Ammonia	0.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.2
Oxygen absorbed, $\frac{1}{4}$ hour at 80° F.	0.004
Oxygen absorbed, 4 hours at 80° F.	0.006
Nitrates	Absent

Remarks.—The water is of excellent organic quality.

(Signed) F. W. F. ARNAUD,
Public Analyst for the County of Kent.

Bacteriological examination of a sample of water taken from the Sittingbourne and Milton Water Supply.

KEYCOL HILL WATERWORKS.

Result of Examination.

Number of Organisms per c.c. capable of growth in 48 hours.	On Agar at 37.50 C.	On Agar at Room Temperature in 3 days.
	2	Total 54.

McConkey's Bile Salts Lactose Broth.

Number of Tests.					No Growth.	Acid.	Acid and Gas.
	Tubes	0.01	c.c.	water			
10	,,	0.1	c.c.	,, ...	10	0	0
10	,,	1.0	c.c.	,, ...	10	0	0
4	,,	10.0	c.c.	,, ...	4	0	0
1	,,	50.0	c.c.	,, ...	0	1	0

Other Tests.—B. coli was absent from 100 ccs. of this water.

B. enteritidis sporogenes.—Nil.

Streptococci.—Nil.

Report.—This water appears to be satisfactory.

(Signed) CONSTANT PONDER,
Pathologist.

The following is the chemical analysis of a sample of water taken from the Milton Water Supply:—

HIGHSTED WATERWORKS.

	Parts per 100,000.
Total Solid Residue	35.5
Chlorine	1.9
Free Ammonia	0.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.002
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.2
Oxygen absorbed, $\frac{1}{4}$ hour at 80° F.	0.003
Oxygen absorbed, 4 hours at 80° F.	0.008
Nitrites	Absent

Remarks.—This water is of excellent organic quality.

(Signed) F. W. F. ARNAUD,
Public Analyst for the County of Kent.

Bacteriological examination of a sample of water from Milton Water Supply.

HIGHSTED WATERWORKS.

Result of Examination.

Number of Organisms per c.c. capable of growth in 48 hours.	On Agar at 37.50 C.	On gelatine at room temperature in 5 days.
	83	Liquefying 2. Total 49.

McConkey's Bile Salts Glucose Broth.

Number of Tests.					No Growth.	Acid.	Acid and Gas.
Tubes	0.01	c.c.	water				
10	,, 0.1	c.c.	,,	...	0	0	10
10	,, 1.0	c.c.	,,	...	0	0	10
4	,, 10.0	c.c.	,,	...	0	0	4
1	,, 50.0	c.c.	,,	...	0	0	1

Other Tests.—B. Coli was absent from 100 ccs. of this water. (Organisms giving acid and gas in 0.1 cc., 1.0 cc. and 10 ccs. McConkey's media proved to be B. lactis aerogenes.)

B. enteritidis sporogenes.—Nil.

Streptococci.—Nil.

(Signed) CONSTANT PONDER,
Pathologist.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Before the year 1930 the area included in the sewerage system came under three individual sanitary authorities:—1, The Sittingbourne Urban District Council; 2, Milton Regis Urban District Council; and 3, Milton Rural District Council. In 1930 the Urban Districts of Sittingbourne and Milton Regis were amalgamated, and a portion of the Milton Rural District, comprising parts of the parishes of Murston, Bapchild, Tunstall and Borden, was added to the newly constituted Urban District.

At that time the Urban Districts of Sittingbourne and Milton Regis, as well as the parish of Murston, had separate sewerage systems, discharging to their own sewage disposal works, but the effluent from all three works discharged at different points into the Milton Creek.

The sewerage system of Murston was designed on the separate system, all storm water from roofs and roads being excluded, and only sewage and trade waste admitted.

The sewerage of Sittingbourne was on the partially separate system, as it was found necessary to allow a certain quantity of roof water from the older houses and some of the road water to enter the sewers.

The sewerage system of Milton, dating back to 1859, was not designed on the separate system, and a large amount of roof and road water entered the sewers. In the course of time, when alterations and extensions of the sewerage system were carried out, where possible roof and road water has been excluded; thus these sewers are now on the partially separate system.

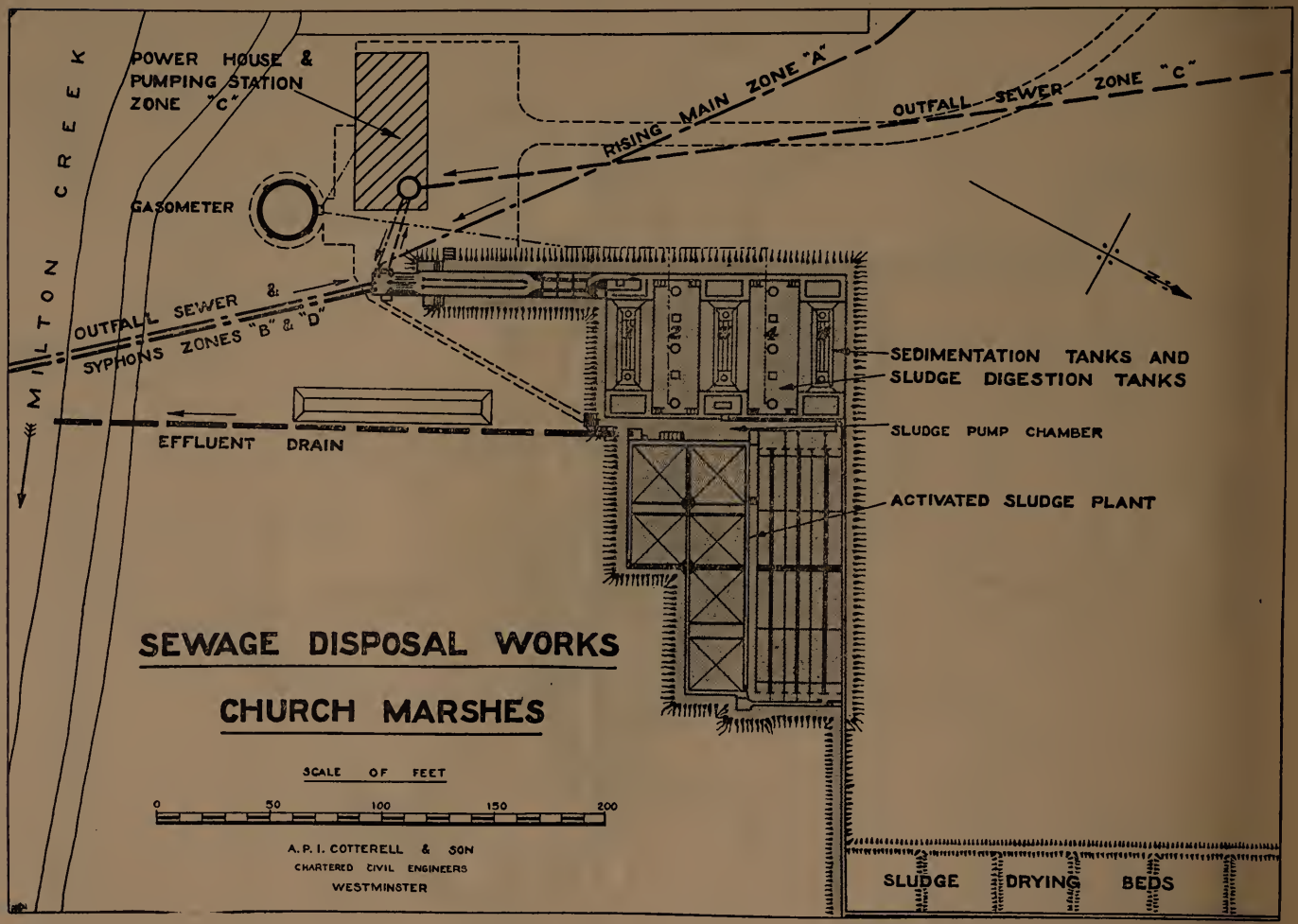
SITTINGBOURNE SEWERAGE.

Up to the year 1902 the Urban District of Sittingbourne had no modern sewers or sewage disposal works. A few water-closets were in use, but cesspool drainage was more general. However, the overflow from these cesspools and most of the sewage found its way into water courses which intersect the town, eventually discharging into the Milton Creek.

In the year 1900 this Council had consulted the late Mr. Henry Law, M.Inst.C.E., and subsequently carried out a complete scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal under the advice of the late Mr. J. C. Melliss, M.Inst.C.E.

In this scheme the sewerage system was divided into three zones. The largest zone, comprising the major part of the Urban District, gravitated to two lines of intercepting sewer in the main London to Canterbury road, that may be termed the western and eastern intercepting sewers. These


SEWERAGE SYSTEM
KEMSLEY VILLAGE SEPARATE SEWERAGE SYSTEM
ZONE "D"
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
PUMPING STATION ZONE "C"
PUMPING STATION
OUTFALL SEWER ZONE "C"
ZONE "C"
RISING MAIN ZONE "X"
SYPHONS ZONES "B" & "D"
COMPRESSOR STATION & STORM WATER TANK
PAPER MILL
STATION
EJECTOR STATION
SOUTHERN RAILWAY
WESTERN INTERCEPTING SEWER
ST. MICHAELS CHURCH
EASTERN INTERCEPTING SEWER
ZONE "B"
SCALE OF FEET
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
A.P.I. COTTERELL & SON
CHARTERED CIVIL ENGINEERS
WESTMINSTER


MILTON CREEK
POWER HOUSE & PUMPING STATION ZONE "C"
RISING MAIN ZONE "A"
OUTFALL SEWER ZONE "C"
GASOMETER
OUTFALL SEWER & SYPHONS ZONES "B" & "D"
EFFLUENT DRAIN
SEDIMENTATION TANKS AND SLUDGE DIGESTION TANKS
SLUDGE PUMP CHAMBER
ACTIVATED SLUDGE PLANT
SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS
CHURCH MARSHES
SCALE OF FEET
0 50 100 150 200
A. P. I. COTTERELL & SON
CHARTERED CIVIL ENGINEERS
WESTMINSTER
SLUDGE DRYING BEDS

sewers commence at the bottom of Park Road and at the top of Snipeshill respectively, converging to discharge into the main outfall sewer at the top of West Lane. This main outfall sewer followed West Lane under the railway arch and discharged into the Sewage Disposal Works on the north side of the railway.

Two ejector stations, one situated in The Wall and the other near the Parish Church in Crown Quay Lane, lifted the sewage from areas that lay at too low a level to discharge into the western intercepting sewer. Steam engine driven compressor plant was installed in a compressor station at the West Lane Sewage Disposal Works.

The Sewage Disposal Works consisted of five covered concrete septic tanks, followed by clinker filled contact beds, operated on the single contact principle. The effluent from these works discharged through an effluent drain into the Milton Creek. The works were designed to serve a dry weather flow of 200,000 gallons per day, from a population of approximately 10,000 persons.

MILTON SEWERAGE.

Before the year 1901 only a portion of the Milton Regis Urban District was sewered, discharging direct to the Milton Creek. This system of sewerage dates back to the year 1859.

In 1900 the Council carried out improvements to the sewerage system; that included the construction of new disposal works on a site adjacent to the gasworks in Gasworks Road. At the same time certain extensions to the sewerage system were carried out, further extensions being made as development took place thereafter.

Considerable difficulty, due to subsoil water, was encountered in the construction of these works, which delayed the completion until 1902.

They were designed to serve a dry weather flow of 200,000 gallons per day, from a population of 10,000 persons.

At the Disposal Works the sewage discharged into a large storage tank, from which it was pumped up to 18 contact beds that were operated on the double contact principle. The effluent from the secondary contact beds passed through a short length of effluent drain, to discharge into the Milton Creek at the original point of outfall.

MURSTON SEWERAGE.

The sewerage of Murston was carried out some time prior to 1901. Two lines of intercepting sewer emptied into an

outfall sewer laid across the marshes, to discharge into the Milton Creek. In the year 1904 sewage disposal works were constructed on a site just below the point where the two intercepting sewers converged, and the effluent from these works discharged into the original outfall sewer.

The works consisted of septic tanks, followed by contact beds operated on the double contact principle. They were designed to serve a dry weather flow of 20,000 gallons per day, from a population of 1,000 persons.

KEMSLEY SEWERAGE.

In the years 1923 and 1924 Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Limited, constructed a new Garden Village at Kemsley to house their employees at the Kemsley Mills.

After careful consideration, they decided to carry out their own system of sewerage, with disposal works situated on the south side of the Milton Creek, the effluent therefrom discharging into the Creek. The *sewerage* of Kemsley is on the *separate system*, and the sewage disposal works have been constructed on the Activated Sludge principle, in which the treatment provides for compressed air to be diffused into the sewage and to assist the purification.

The *efficiency* of these works has been so marked that it has not been deemed necessary to provide for this in the new scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal works about to be described.

INTER-COMMUNICATION OF SEWERS.

Prior to the amalgamation, the Urban Districts of Sittingbourne and Milton Regis were very much interlocked. This led to the construction, in many cases, of two sewers in the same street. It was realised that if it was possible to use one sewer for the needs of both districts, and if, by re-arrangement, the amount of sewage needing to be pumped could be reduced, it would be more economical.

In 1924 both Sittingbourne and Milton Regis Councils approached Mr. A. P. I. Cotterell, M.Inst.C.E., requesting him to report upon the practicability of inter-communication of sewers. In his report it was proposed that the Milton Urban District sewer, serving an area in the neighbourhood of Park Road, should be connected with the Sittingbourne sewerage system, and thus allow this sewage to gravitate to the Sittingbourne Disposal Works. It was also suggested that the ejector station at The Wall should be abandoned and a new sewer and syphon constructed across the Milton Creek to discharge into the Milton outfall sewer in Gasworks Road.

The present scheme of sewerage, with new sewage disposal works at Church Marshes, embodies the major part of these recommendations.

NEW WORKS.

In July, 1930, Messrs. A. P. I. Cotterell and Son, MM.Inst.C.E., were requested to confer with the Surveyors of the newly constituted Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council, to report upon the extension of sewers and the improvement of the sewage disposal works in the enlarged district. Subsequently instructions were given to prepare a scheme embodying these proposals for submission to the Ministry of Health, and for construction.

The Public Inquiry into the proposals put forward in this scheme, presided over by two Inspectors of the Ministry of Health, was held on Wednesday, 7th January, 1931, and approval was received shortly thereafter.

DATA.

Population provided for:—

Sewerage	36,000
Sewage Disposal Works	27,000

Dry weather flow of sewage provided for:—

Sewerage	900,000 gallons per day
Sewage Disposal Works	675,000 ,, ,, ,,

It was estimated that the population to be served by this new sewerage scheme amounted to 24,000 persons, and that the dry weather flow of sewerage would be 528,000 gallons per day. To allow for future development, provision has been made in the main sewers for a future population of 36,000 persons and a dry weather flow of 900,000 gallons per day. The sewage disposal works, however, are only sufficient to meet the requirements of a future population of 27,000 persons and a dry weather flow of 675,000 gallons per day. The works are so arranged that additions can be easily made to provide for a larger population, when the development of the district requires it.

These works have now been completed, although certain extension sewers, not included in the original scheme, are still in course of construction. Total cost, £88,000.

SEWERAGE.

The sewerage of the Urban District is now divided into four zones that are shown on the plan.

Zone A comprises most of the area that originally drained to the Milton Sewage Disposal Works, as well as the area that originally drained to the Wall ejectors. A large portion of the district to the south of London Road, and also the developing district in the neighbourhood of Vicarage Road, North Street and Grovehurst Road is, however, excluded.

Zone B comprises the whole of the area that drained by gravitation to the Sittingbourne Disposal Works, with the addition of a large area of the original Milton Urban District that lies to the south of the main London Road, including also the sewerage of Crown Quay Lane that is lifted by the ejector installation.

Zone C comprises the whole of the area north of and including Vicarage Road, North Street, and Grovehurst Road, but excluding Kemsley Garden Village.

Zone D comprises the whole of the area that was sewered to the Murston Sewage Disposal Works.

POWER STATION AND PUMPING STATION.

The power station at the new Disposal Works in Church Marshes comprises engine room, transformer room, workshop, store, and heating boiler house, laboratory, office, and lavatory.

Electric power is supplied by Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Limited, from their cable to the transformer room sub-station, through two duplicate three-core cables. The plant installed in this sub-station consists of extra high tension switchgear in duplicate and a power transformer, all to the specification and requirements of Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Ltd., whose representative is the only person authorised to enter this station.

From this transformer the power is taken to the main low tension switchgear erected in the engine room, to transfer the current to supply power for the Milton Pumping Station, engine room plant, Sewage Disposal Works plant, and for lighting purposes at these places.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The Sewage Disposal Works on Church Marshes comprise the following:—

(1) Inlet chamber, screens, and grit channels.

(2) Grease and oil interceptor.
(3) Sedimentation tanks.
(4) Activated Sludge plant:—
    (*a*) Aeration and re-aeration channels.
    (*b*) Settlement tanks.
(5) Sludge digestion tanks.
(6) Sludge drying beds.
(7) Gasometer, etc.

INLET CHAMBER, SCREENS, AND GRIT CHANNELS.

The sewage discharges into the inlet chamber. From the inlet chamber the sewage flows through one or both bar screens, where sticks, rags, and similar material are collected and raked up into a trough, to be discharged into tramway skips alongside.

After the screens, the sewage then passes through grit channels, of which there are three in parallel.

GREASE AND OIL INTERCEPTOR.

After the grit channels, the sewage enters the oil and grease interceptor, where the agitation of the sewage by the diffusion of air causes the oil and grease floating on the surface of the central compartment to drift through wooden slot barriers to the side compartments.

The sewage then leaves the grease and oil trap to discharge into the feed channel to the sedimentation tanks.

SEDIMENTATION TANKS.

There are three sedimentation tanks operated in parallel. Each tank is constructed with a double storey: the upper storey to accommodate the flow of sewage, where sedimentation takes place, whilst the lower storey is for the reception of the sedimented sludge, that is thus kept out of direct contact with fresh sewage entering or passing through the tank.

Each sedimentation tank is provided with two cast-iron sludge outlet pipes, through which sludge is discharged under hydrostatic pressure into one or other of the sludge digestion tanks.

The floor consists of two inverted pyramids, the sludge being drawn from the apex.

ACTIVATED SLUDGE PLANT.

The effluent from the sedimentation tanks discharges into the effluent channel, and thence to the Activated Sludge plant, where air at low pressure aerates the sewage by diffusion from specially constructed porous plates, and the impurities in the sewage are clotted out by the activated sludge and finally oxidised.

The settlement tanks are pyramidal in construction, with steep sloping sides, having a total capacity of 167,250 gallons.

The clarified effluent overflows at the surface of the settlement tanks into iron troughs that discharge into the effluent channels, and thus to the 24in. cast-iron effluent drain.

EFFLUENT DRAIN AND OUTFALL.

The effluent drain is 24 inches diameter, cast-iron pipe, constructed on concrete piers, to discharge through the creek bank into the Milton Creek at a level of 10 feet above ordnance datum.

The high water level during ordinary spring tides is about 11 feet above ordnance datum.

The outfall is protected by a cast-iron flap valve that prevents the tides entering the works. As the top water level of the settlement tanks is 12.50 feet above ordnance datum, flooding of the works is avoided.

SLUDGE DIGESTION TANKS, GASOMETER, ETC.

The two arched digestion tanks have each a capacity of 19,171 cubic feet. They are arranged to operate in parallel for single digestion, or in series for double digestion.

At present it is intended to operate them in series, the fresh sludge being pumped into the primary tank that, when full, overflows to the secondary tank.

These tanks are both kept, as nearly as possible, constantly full, additional fresh sludge being discharged to the primary tank immediately following the extraction of digested sludge or supernatant water.

Two dome gas collectors are fixed with water seals in the roofs of each tank, and gas produced by the sludge in the process of digestion is led through gas main to the gasometer (that has a capacity of 5,000 cubic feet) erected behind the power house.

Gas obtained from sludge has a calorific value, approximately 700 B.T.U., which is higher than ordinary coal gas.

The floors of the digestion tanks are pyramidal, and the digestion sludge is drawn off the apex of each inverted cone to discharge, by hydrostatic pressure, into a sludge channel above the access passage.

SLUDGE PUMPING PLANT.

Sludge pumping plant, consisting of three electrically-operated motor-driven Wallwin pumps, is installed in the access chamber situated between the tank and the Activated Sludge plant.

SLUDGE DRYING BEDS.

The digested sludge from the digestion tanks is discharged to clinker-filled and under-drained sludge drying beds, where it is able to dry, the water content draining through the under-drain to join the digestion tank super-natant water drain, and thus to the outfall sewer from Zone C. The total area of these beds is 4,115 square yards.

The digested sludge from the digestion tanks, when properly digested, is free from objectionable odour and does not attract flies. It readily cracks on the drying beds, and thus is not liable to ponding on the surface.

After remaining on the beds for about two to three weeks, the dried sludge is found to be a valuable manure or surface dressing to pasture land and lawns, and will be sold to local farmers or allotment holders.

GENERALLY.

A feature of these works is the small fall of the sewage in its passage through the works by gravitation. The outfall of the sewage into the inlet chamber from the syphon and rising mains is 14.75 feet above ordnance datum, and the weir level of the troughs over which the effluent from the settlement tanks discharge is 12.50 feet above ordnance datum—a total fall of 2.25 feet. This is made possible by the adoption of the Activated Sludge system for secondary treatment.

Another important feature is the use of gas collected from the sludge in the process of digestion, that will shortly be used to operate the compressor plant compressing air for the Activated Sludge plant. The gasometer acts as a reservoir for the gas drawn off, and balances the sludging operations in the works.

SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1934.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I herewith present my Annual Report of work carried out in my Department during the year 1934.

HOUSING (Inspection of District) REGULATIONS.

Having in mind that proper housing is an essential part of public health work, frequent inspections are made in an endeavour to maintain a good standard.

Generally speaking, I find that property owners respond to Notices sent for defects found in the course of inspection. This is shown by figures given below. Only on 20 occasions was it found necessary to serve Statutory Notices.

I am also glad to report that there are very few cases or serious overcrowding in your District. Where these do exist the tenants are, for various reasons, unable to find more suitable accommodation. Several cases have been abated during the year by granting houses on the Council's estate to the families affected.

The following are details of work carried out:—

Number of houses inspected and details recorded	634
General inspections—details not recorded	721
Re-inspections	372
Intimation Notices served	248
Statutory Notices served	20
Number of nuisances and defects remedied	414

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Walls, Roofs, and Ceilings repaired	107
Doors and Windows	26
Eaves, Gutters, and Downpipes	16
Floors	32
Grates, Coppers repaired or renewed	35
New Sinks provided	12
Drains cleared, repaired, etc.	37
Water Closets repaired	26
Flushing Cisterns fixed or repaired	19
Sanitary Ash Bins renewed	48
Miscellaneous	56

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 5 Common Lodging Houses in your District. One in East Street, Flushing Street, King Street, Gas Road, and High Street, Milton. With total accommodation for 135 beds—22, 45, 14, 30, and 24 respectively.

Frequent inspections have been made during the year, and, generally speaking, they have been kept in a clean condition. There are 3 rooms "Let in Lodging"—furnished.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of Diphtheria (20), Scarlet Fever (30), Erysipelas (19), and Encephalitis Lethargica (1), and 15 Pulmonary Tuberculosis were investigated, and disinfection carried out after removal to Hospital.

Library books were also disinfected after use by infected persons.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

There are 29 Factories and 51 Workshops, including 7 Bakehouses, on the Register.

During inspections special attention is paid to cleanliness, ventilation, and sanitary conveniences.

I find the premises are kept in a satisfactory condition.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary arrangements in connection with the Schools are frequently inspected, and usually found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The conveniences at six of the Schools are of the "individual pan" type, and two are of the "trough closet" type.

Trough closets have been done away with and individual pans provided at three of the Schools during the year.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are registered in your District 4 Cowkeepers, 7 Milk Shops and Dairies, and 25 Purveyors of Milk.

A number of shopkeepers are retailing "Sterilised Milk," which is sold in sealed bottles only.

Every effort is made to maintain a high standard of cleanliness. Frequent inspections are made of the premises where the milk is produced and retailed, and, in addition, regular samples are taken for bacteriological examination.

This examination gives some indication of the degree of cleanliness and reveals any evidence of tuberculous infection. In addition, during the year a clinical examination of all the cows has been made by the County Council Veterinary Inspector.

I am glad to report that the samples have reached a good standard.

I believe the producers are endeavouring to give the public clean milk, and the consumers should also do their part by seeing that the milk when supplied is kept in a clean vessel and in a clean and suitable place.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND FOODSHOPS.

The inspection of meat takes up a considerable part of my time, as every effort is made to inspect all carcases after slaughter.

During the year approximately 3,007 carcases were inspected, and it was found necessary to condemn as unfit for human consumption 24 cwts. 3 qtrs. and 22 lbs. of meat (compared with 34 cwts. 1 qtr. 16 lbs. in 1933). In every case voluntary surrender was made.

The following table gives the details:—

2 Bovine Carcases (tuberculosis)	1098 lbs.
Part Bovine (badly bruised)	192 lbs.
Pork (fevered)	90 lbs.
Imported Beef (diseased)	70 lbs.
Livers (diseased)	1332 lbs.
Fish (unsound)	12 lbs.
	2794 lbs.

In addition to 11 Slaughter Houses, there are 23 Butchers' Shops, 1 Meat Stall, 9 Fried Fish Shops, and 17 Fish Shops in your District. These have been carried on without causing a nuisance.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Under this Act it is the duty of the occupiers of lands and buildings to take all necessary steps to destroy rats and mice on or in the lands or buildings, and to prevent the premises becoming infested.

A supply of Rat Poison is kept at my office, and is sold at cost price, 6d. per packet.

Several complaints have been received, and these were promptly dealt with.

May I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council for their helpful co-operation during the year.

I beg to remain,

Yours obediently,

JOSEPH VARLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING.

1.—*Inspection of Dwelling Houses.*

(1)	Total number of dwelling houses *inspected* for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1355
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	1727
(2)	Number of dwelling houses (included under the preceding heading) which were *inspected* and *recorded* under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	634
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	882
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	247

2.—*Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.*

	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of *informal* action by the Local Authority or their officers	228

3.—*Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.	Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	20
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices:—	
	(*a*) By Owners	20
	(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 9

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which such defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(*a*) By Owners 9

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 8

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 1

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

FAVERSHAM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I beg to submit my Report of the Milton Creek Area of your Port for the year ending 31st December, 1934.

During the year under review I have made frequent visits to the vessels in the Creek, and I am pleased to report that on no occasion have I found it necessary to make application or serve notices on the Owners of the Vessels in regard to Sanitary defects.

The vessels as a whole are well kept and clean, and the water supply arrangements are satisfactory, iron tanks or barrels being used for the storage of water.

Occasionally barges freighted with manure for agricultural purposes arrive, and these are usually examined before departure to see they are properly cleaned.

As previously stated, very few rats get aboard the vessels, but, when they are found, quick measures are taken to exterminate them.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOSEPH VARLEY, M.S.I.A.

FAVERSHAM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Milton Creek and the Western Swale are within the jurisdiction of the Port of Faversham for the purposes of sanitation and public health.

The Port Sanitary Anthority is the Town Council of Faversham.

For that portion of the Faversham Port comprised in Milton Creek, as defined by the Milton Creek Conservancy Act, 1889, the Medical Officer of Health of Milton and Sittingbourne has been appointed Medical Officer of Health.

TO THE FAVERSHAM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for 1934, as your Medical Officer for the Milton portion of the Port.

The type of vessel using the Creek and the nature of goods carried (chiefly bricks, wood pulp, London refuse and manure) remains unchanged.

During the year I have periodically visited the Creek, and every barge using the Creek has been inspected during the year by your Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary defects discovered on barges are always attended to at once by owners without Statutory Notices being served.

Infectious Diseases.—Very little foodstuffs are brought into this portion of the Port, and during the year no article of food was condemned as unfit.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. WERNET, M.B. (Lond.), D.P.H.